

In the Specification

At page 1, please replace lines 7-15 by the following paragraph:

The present application is related to the following concurrently filed and commonly assigned U.S. patent applications: Serial No. 10/023,329 ~~xx/xxx,xxx~~ (Attorney Docket No. M-11984 US), entitled "Method for Balanced-Delay Clock Tree Insertion," by A. Srinivasan and D. Allen, Serial No. 10/022,751 ~~xx/xxx,xxx~~ (Attorney Docket No. M-12482 US), entitled "Method for Determining a Zero-skew Buffer Insertion Point," by A. Srinivasan, and Serial No. 10/022,743 ~~xx/xxx,xxx~~ (Attorney Docket No. M-12483 US), entitled "Method for Match Delay Buffer Insertion," by A. Srinivasan and D. Allen.

On page 10, after line 31, please insert the following paragraph:

Figure 21 illustrates a method for selecting an appropriate buffer for use in a clock tree.

On page 59, please amend the paragraph beginning at line 16 as follows:

In accordance with the present invention, as illustrated by Figure 21, a cost function C for optimal driving selection is given as: